



ARIZONA MILITARY REGIONAL COMPATIBILITY PROJECT

GILA BEND AIR FORCE AUXILIARY FIELD / BARRY M. GOLDWATER RANGE

Policy Advisory Committee Meeting

September 9, 2004

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Gila Bend Elementary School Auditorium

Gila Bend, AZ 85337

MEETING NOTES

I. **Welcome** – Deb Sydenham, Arizona Department of Commerce and Bob Duchek, Parsons.

II. **Update on Public Informational Meetings (PIM)**

- **NOTE: Yuma Public Informational Meeting scheduled for September 16, 2004 was postponed.** Additional time was needed to discuss policy recommendations along the range boundary prior to presenting additional proposals to the public. The PAC will be notified of the new date once identified.
- **Gila Bend Public Informational Meeting – Saturday, September 25, 2004** at Gila Bend Elementary School Cafeteria, 308 North Martin Avenue, Gila Bend, AZ – Time 9 am to 11:00 a.m..

III. **Discussion of Recommendations for Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field** – based on discussion at the PAC meeting:

a. **Noise Contours:**

- Discussion:
 - *Question:* Instead of a majority northwest or northeast departure, could/do planes out of Gila Bend AFAF depart to the south? *Answer:* Not optimum to depart to the south due to the potential for impacts on BMGR operations and the fact that it is preferred to depart to the north for training operations. Of the approximately 40,000 operations per year, greater than 39,000 are departures to the north (Luke AFB).

Result of discussion– The proposed noise contours will depict 90% departures to the northwest and 90% departures to the northeast utilizing F-18 as primary aircraft.

b. **Hazard Zones Northeast and Northwest:**

- Discussion:
 - Northwest Clear Zone and APZs follow an existing northwest departure track; northeast Clear Zone and APZs follow an existing northeast departure track; and southern Clear Zone and APZs follow an exiting arrival track.

Result of discussion – the proposed Accident Potential Zones (APZ) and Clear Zones depicted will include the Northwest and Northeast departure routes along with the Southern approach routes, which follow existing flight paths.

c. Hazard Zones: Straight-In from North

- Discussion
 - Proposed straight-in Clear Zone and APZs at the North end of the runway do not follow an existing “active” approach route; however, approaches from the north do occur in emergency situations when aircraft fuel is low and the planes need to land using an “instrument landing approach,” which can only occur landing straight-in on the runway.
 - *Question:* Are the emergency landings from the north part of the current mission of Gila Bend AFAF? *Answer:* Yes, emergency landings, including those from the north, are part of the current mission (Luke AFB).
 - *Question:* Does the Department of Defense AICUZ guidance specify that all active runways must have a northern and southern clear zone and APZs for safety? *Answer:* The Air Force Instruction on AICUZ (AFI 32-7063) refers to DoD Instruction 4165.57 for policies on locating AICUZ zones. The guidance in DoD Instruction does include APZs at the end of each active runway; however, the guidance also states that modifications will be considered under certain conditions such as infrequent use (Luke AFB).
 - Potential for future need of straight-in instrument landing approach training at Gila Bend AFAF:
 - Precise instrument approach using global positioning systems (GPS) approach training.
 - Department of Homeland Security (DHS) operations increasing and may use Gila Bend AFAF facilities with a requirement for straight-in instrument approach (Luke AFB).
 - Northern approach flight track has overflight area that goes over the Town of Gila Bend with potential sensitive (e.g., residential homes, school) land uses under the flight path.

Result of discussion – the proposed straight-in Accident Potential Zone (APZ) at the North end of runway is awaiting review and comment by the Gila Bend Town Council on Tuesday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. Results of this discussion will be conveyed to the PAC.

d. Vicinity Box:

- Discussion
 - Intention of Vicinity Box is to encompass the Accident Potential Zones, noise zones, and the overflight areas (departures, arrivals, and closed pattern flight tracks) within the vicinity of the Gila Bend auxiliary field.
 - Notification will be required, per state law, to landowners within the Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field Vicinity Box to inform them that they are located “within the vicinity of an auxiliary airfield.”
 - The proposed Vicinity Box (approximately 10 miles wide by 14 mile long) is smaller than the Vicinity Boxes designated at Davis-Monthan AFB, Luke AFB, and Luke AFB Auxiliary Field #1.

Result of discussion - the proposed Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field Vicinity Box configuration is as follows: five (5) miles on either side of runway centerline extended; and, seven (7) miles from each end of the runway.

IV. Discussion of Policies for Compatibility in Other Areas – The following items have been identified as potential compatibility approaches for the northern and western boundaries of the Barry M. Goldwater Range (BMGR). (Some approaches may also be applicable to BMGR boundaries in the Ajo vicinity). These items will be on the agenda as discussion items for the next PAC meetings on September 27th and October 28th.

- The objective of the compatibility approaches is to:
 - Address potential off-range impacts related to noise and safety; and
 - Maintain current and future mission capabilities for BMGR.
- The potential approaches are intended to work as a “Tool Box” that the local jurisdictions can use, and could include the following:
 - Notification
 - Development Review (by MCAS Yuma or Luke AFB)
 - Define Zone of Influence
 - Maintain Low Density / Intensity Uses in Proximity to Range
 - Avigation Disclosure Statement

Potential applications of these approaches are:

- Notification – Define Notification Area around Range boundary (excluding Yuma JLUP Area and Gila Bend & Aux Field #2 Vicinity Boxes). For example:
 - Extend 3 to 5 miles from Range boundary
 - Require notification as in Vicinity Boxes
 - Require review by Luke AFB or MCAS Yuma for all proposed development in Notification Area
- Zone of Influence – Define “Zone of Influence” around Range boundary (excluding Yuma JLUP Area and Gila Bend / Aux Field #2 Noise/Hazard Zones). For example:
 - Extend 1-2 miles from Range boundary
 - Additional distance in focus areas, if necessary to encompass effects of operations
 - Maintain maximum density / intensity of development as per existing zoning
 - Implement Avigation Easements and / or Statements of Disclosure

V. Discussion of Implementation of the JLUS – Successful implementation of the JLUS will require that these and other tools are utilized as part of an overall program to guide the decisions made by a variety of public and private entities. Among the potential implementation measures to be considered for further discussion are:

- Define Noise Zones, Safety Zones and Vicinity Box for Gila Bend AFAF
- Recognize JLUS by Local Resolution
- Adopt Compatible Land Uses and Land Use Policies in General / Comprehensive Plans
- Develop / Maintain Ongoing Coordination Mechanisms
- Explore Use of Conservation Easements
- Support State Land Trust Reform to Improve Compatibility with Military Installations
- Consider Use of Military Installation Fund
- Enhance Local Notification and Disclosure Requirements
- Consider Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) in Appropriate Locations

VI. Other Discussion Items – none

VII. Next Steps:

- a. Determine Policy recommendations for BMGR boundary.**
- b. Determine potential JLUS implementation measures**
- c. Upcoming PAC Meetings** – mark your calendars, the next two Policy Advisory Meetings will be held at the Gila Bend Elementary School Auditorium on:
 - Monday, September 27th – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 - Thursday, October 28th – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

VIII. Public Comments – none

IX. Adjourn

For more information on this project including the PowerPoint presentation given at this PAC meeting (and all others), please log on to www.azcommerce.com and click on the *Communities & Counties* link and select *Arizona Regional Military Compatibility Project*.